

### III. REMARKS

Claims 23-29 have been cancelled without prejudice to the filing of a continuation application.

Claim 17 has been amended to delete "at least one light source". Also "a flat panel display" has been changed to just "a display". It therefore submitted that claims 17-18 and 21-22 are no longer objectionable.

The "means" clauses have been deleted from claims 1 and 17. Claims 1 and 17 have been amended to recite "wherein the areas comprise first pixel-like...". In claim 2, "the environment" has been cancelled. Claim 15 now recites that it is an angle between adjacent sides.

It is therefore submitted that all claims conform to 35 USC 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph.

The substance of allowable claim 29 (substantially uniform light out... regardless of the distance from a light input end) has been added to independent claims 1 and 17. It is therefore submitted that all claims are allowable under 35 USC 102 over either Shisorio and JP '585 since this feature is not in either reference.

Further, since this feature is not suggested by either reference, all claims are unobvious over them.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

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Oct 21, 2004  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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